

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the subject application as amended herein is respectfully requested.

The Examiner has rejected Claims 1-9 and 15 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

The Examiner has rejected Claims 1, 2, 4-10 and 12-16 as obvious over Ito et al. (US 5,581,521; hereafter Ito) in view of Masuda et al. (US 5,633,847; hereafter Masuda).

The Examiner has objected to Claim 11 as being dependent upon a rejected claim.

The Applicants have amended claims 1-9 and 11-16 to incorporate the allowable subject matter. Further, the Applicants respectfully argue that Claim 10 is allowable as written and all claims conform to the requirements of 35 U.S.C. § 112.

Briefly, the present invention relates to a method and system for mass producing double-sided optical discs. The system involves printing multiple layers of data on each side of the disc so that more total data can be stored. The system uses master disks oriented as mirror images to each other so that the disk can be played, without having to change direction.

In regards to the § 112 second paragraph two rejection of Claims 1-9, the applicants argue that the language is clear. According to the claims as written: there are two sides of the disc; each side has one or more layers; and

the master discs are specific to each side of the disk. In the embodiment with one layer, there is only one layer on each side of the disk and each of those layers will have a separate master disk. Therefore, at a minimum, there will be two data layers, one on each of the disc.

In regards to the § 112 second paragraph rejection of Claim 15, the applicants wish to use the term "set" to mean a group consisting of one or more.

In regards to the § 103(a) rejection of Claim 10, Ito fails to disclose using one set of master discs for one side and a second set of master discs for the other side. Ito (Col. 9, lines 21-22) discloses a double sided recording optical disk. But in Ito, this disk is a simple combination of two optical disks. The process of the claimed invention is very different form that in Ito because Ito involves only a single master disk used to mass produce the standard disks. The present invention's use of more than a single master disk is a new concept in this type of optical disk mass production and would not have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in art.

For the before mentioned reasons Claims 1-16 of the present patent application are definite, non-obvious and ready for patenting.

It is respectfully submitted that the subject application is now in condition for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

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